

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

The broadcast flag will not interfere with the ability of consumers to legitimately nor illegally copy DTV content. It would be a useless step. Something stronger is needed. The majority of people with whom I discuss copyrights don't have a clue. Illegal copying is rampant on the personal level. They will turn to whatever equipment or software bypasses the protection without any quams and in many cases with a feeling of taking a moral higher ground.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices? It would not interfere. Neither would it stop illegal uses.

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard? It would not interfere. Neither would it stop illegal uses.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options? It would not limit new development except for a tiny impact on cost.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

At first, it would be a big impact, perhaps as much as \$25 per unit. In about 2 year, the impact would become negligible.

#### Other Comments:

I don't think that this should be a matter for the FCC. This is a matter for Congress and the industry. The FCC should not act as a manufacturers' association. The law should state that a legal public broadcast of a work removes all restrictions on copies resulting from that transmission except for resale, rebroadcast or derivative works. The industry should then respond by deciding what they want to give away and what they want to sell, encrypting what they want to sell, using authentication protocols (well defined by the cryptography community) to monitor and control every use of the works they own.